AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for producing 1,3-propanediol, which comprises:

reacting an allyl alcohol with an alcohol compound in the presence of a catalyst containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of ~~elements of the group III~~scandium, yttrium, and lanthanoid elements ~~and actinoid elements~~ of the Periodic Table, to thereby obtain 3-alkoxy-1-propanol, and

hydrolyzing the 3-alkoxy-1-propanol at a temperature of lower than 200°C in the presence of at least one acid catalyst.

2. (currently amended): A method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol, which comprises reacting an allyl alcohol with an alcohol compound in the presence of a catalyst containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of ~~elements of the group III~~scandium, yttrium, and lanthanoid elements ~~and actinoid elements~~ of the Periodic Table.

3. (currently amended): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 2, wherein the catalyst containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of ~~elements of the group III~~ scandium, yttrium, and lanthanoid elements ~~and actinoid elements~~ of the Periodic Table is an oxide.

4. (currently amended): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 2, wherein the catalyst containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of ~~elements of the group III~~scandium, yttrium, and lanthanoid elements ~~and actinoid elements~~ of the Periodic Table is selected from the group consisting of scandium oxide, yttrium oxide, lanthanum oxide, samarium oxide, ytterbium oxide, neodymium oxide and lutetium oxide.

5. (currently amended): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 2, wherein the catalyst containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of ~~elements of the group III~~scandium, yttrium, and lanthanoid elements ~~and actinoid elements~~ of the Periodic Table is an alkoxide compound.

6. (currently amended): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 5, wherein the catalyst containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of ~~elements of the group III~~scandium, yttrium, and lanthanoid elements ~~and actinoid elements~~ of the Periodic Table is selected from the group consisting of scandium trimethoxide, scandium triethoxide, scandium triisopropoxide, yttrium trimethoxide, yttrium triethoxide, yttrium triisopropoxide, ytterbium trimethoxide, ytterbium triethoxide and ytterbium triisopropoxide.

7. (currently amended): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 2, wherein the catalyst containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of ~~elements of the group III~~scandium, yttrium, and lanthanoid elements and actinoid elements of the Periodic Table is supported on a carrier.

8. (original): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 7, wherein the carrier is either activated carbon or magnesia.

9. (original): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 8, wherein a specific surface area of the carrier is 1000 m2/g or more.

10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 2, wherein the alcohol compound to be reacted with the allyl alcohol is at least one selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, n-propanol, isopropanol, n-butanol, isobutanol, t-butanol, and allyl alcohol~~, phenol and benzyl alcohol~~.

12. (original): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 2, wherein the reaction of the allyl alcohol and the alcohol compound is carried out in the presence of water.

13. (currently amended): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 12, wherein the amount of water present in the reaction system is not less than the number of moles of elements in the catalyst containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of ~~elements of the group III~~scandium, yttrium, and lanthanoid elements ~~and actinoid elements~~ of the Periodic Table.

14. (original): The method for producing 3-alkoxy-1-propanol according to claim 2, wherein the yield of 3-alkoxy-1-propanol is 0.5 or more per 1 mmol of metal used as the catalyst per one hour of the reaction time.

15.-28. (canceled).